

because of the Justice Department's history of violating individual rights.

It is the Justice Department that leads the ongoing violations of the fourth, fifth, ninth, and tenth amendments in the name of the "war on drugs." It is Justice Department agents who perform warrantless wiretap, and "sneak-and-peak" searches under the misnamed PATRIOT Act. It is the Justice Department that prosecutes American citizens for violating unconstitutional federal regulations even in cases where no reasonable person could have known their actions violated federal law.

Some like to pretend that the Justice Department's assault on liberties is a modern phenomenon, or that abuses of liberties are only carried out by one political party. However, history shows that the unconstitutional usurpations of power and abuse of rights goes back at least almost a hundred years to the "Progressive" era and that Justice Departments of both parties have disregarded the Constitution and violated individual liberties.

During World War I, President Woodrow Wilson's Justice Department imprisoned people who dared to speak out against the war. Following the war, the progressive assault on the first amendment continued with the infamous "Palmer raids," named for Wilson's Attorney General, A. Mitchell Palmer. Just as President Wilson's policies of foreign interventionism and domestic welfare served as a model for future presidents, Attorney General Palmer's assaults on civil liberties served as a model for future attorneys general of both parties. Think of Robert Kennedy authorizing the wiretapping of Martin Luther King, Jr., John Mitchell's role in the abuses of civil liberties by the Nixon administration, Ed Meese's assault on the first amendment with his "pornography commission," Janet Reno's role in the murder of innocent men, women and children at Waco, and the steady erosion of our rights over the past decade. In addition, it is the attorney general and the Justice Department that defend and justify violations of constitutional liberties by the President and the other federal bureaucracies.

Many civil libertarians were hopeful the new administration would be more sympathetic to civil liberties than was the prior administration. But the current administration has disregarded campaign promises to restore respect for civil liberties and has continued, and in many cases expanded, the anti-freedom policies of its predecessors. For instance, the current administration is supporting renewal of the policies of warrantless wiretapping and other PATRIOT Act provisions. The administration, despite promising to be more open and transparent, is also continuing to use the claim of "state secrets" to shield potentially embarrassing information from Americans. According to the New York Times, the current administration is even outdoing its predecessors in the prosecution of government whistleblowers. It is little wonder that the head of the American Civil Liberties Union recently said he is disgusted with the administration's record on civil liberties.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, Congress bears ultimate responsibility for the Justice Department's actions, as it is Congress that passes the unconstitutional laws the Justice Department enforces. Congress also fails to perform effective oversight of the Justice Department. Instead of honoring the Justice Department,

Congress should begin to repeal unconstitutional laws and start exercising congressional oversight of executive branch agencies that menace our freedoms.

IN HONOR OF PEGGY SPIEGLER

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 24, 2010*

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Peggy Spiegler, who tragically lost her battle to melanoma two years ago.

Peggy was a loving daughter, wife, mother, and grandmother. She was an extremely passionate teacher and was a great friend to the many people in her life. Despite being diagnosed with stage-four melanoma in February of 2008, the disease never weakened Peggy's spirit. Throughout her life, Peggy touched the lives of so many people with her amazing strength and positive outlook on life.

Last year, Peggy's family and friends decided to host 'Peggy's Walk,' an annual walk held in her honor to raise money for melanoma research. For their inaugural event, they raised more than \$40,000. During this year's walk on June 26th in Cooper River Park, Peggy's friends and family will aim to raise even more.

Peggy Spiegler was an inspirational human being that touched the lives of so many throughout her community. I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in remembering this remarkable woman and commend her friends and family for their outstanding efforts in raising awareness for this deadly disease.

ROSA MUNGUIA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 24, 2010*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Rosa Munguia who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Rosa Munguia is a 7th grader at Wheat Ridge Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Rosa Munguia is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Rosa Munguia for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

HONORING RON GETTELFINGER  
FOR HIS LEADERSHIP OF THE  
UAW

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 23, 2010*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, Ron Gettelfinger, one of this nation's great labor leaders, retired this year as President of the United Auto Workers. We will sorely miss him.

Born in 1944, Ron has a long distinguished history with the United Auto Workers, starting when he went to work at Ford Motor's Louisville, Kentucky, assembly plant as a chassis line repairman. Because of his dedicated advocacy for the rights of his fellow workers, he quickly ascended the ranks of the UAW. In 1984, he was elected president of his local union, and, in 1987, he became a member of the Ford-UAW Bargaining Committee. He held several other positions before being elected the union's vice-president in 1998, and then of course its president.

Ron has been a leading advocate of single-payer health care, and was a key player in the health reform process. In addition, Ron has worked tirelessly for investment in American manufacturing and for fair-trade agreements with strong workers' rights provisions. Just last year, in Detroit, he received the Edward H. McNamara Goodfellow of the Year Award for his significant contributions to the community.

As Chair of the Workforce Protections Subcommittee, I know first-hand the significance of Ron's accomplishments on behalf of America's working families. Congratulations, Ron, we honor you, and thank you for your contributions.

SAM ROSALES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 24, 2010*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sam Rosales who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Sam Rosales is a 12th grader at Arvada School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sam Rosales is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Sam Rosales for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.